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Docket No.: R2184.0475/P475  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Hiroshi Maegawa

Application No.: 10/563,799

Confirmation No.: 7558

Filed: July 25, 2006

Art Unit: 2627

For: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM,  
RECORDING LAYER DISCRIMINATING  
METHOD, RECORDING LAYER  
DISCRIMINATING APPARATUS, OPTICAL  
DISK APPARATUS, INFORMATION  
RECORDING MEDIUM FORMING  
APPARATUS, INFORMATION  
RECORDING MEDIUM FORMING  
METHOD, INFORMATION DETECTING  
METHOD, INFORMATION DETECTING  
APPARATUS, AND INFORMATION  
RECORDING MEDIUM APPARATUS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited by a Japanese Patent Office Communication for the Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-313867. The communication is dated December 4, 2007, which is not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. A copy of the communication is attached hereto, a translation of which is available to the USPTO through the Dossier Access System. Should the translation be unavailable, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to assure that appropriate information is available for consideration.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. R2184.0475/P475.

Dated: January 29, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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